

Customer No.: 31561
Application No: 10/719,593
Docket No.:15866-US-PA

In the Drawing:

Please substitute Figure 2 with the replacement drawing.

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REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed on June 21, 2005. The Office Action has objected to the drawings for failing to shown every of the invention specified in the claims. The Office Action has also rejected claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-14 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Howland (USP 6,894,519). The Office Action has further rejected claims 4, 10 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Howland in view of Jolley (USP 5,489,557).

Claims 1-17 remain pending of which claims 1, 7 and 12 have been amended and claims 6 and 17 have been cancelled to more accurately describe the present invention. It is believed that no new matter is added by way of these amendments made to the claims or otherwise to the application.

After carefully considering the remarks set forth in this Office Action and the cited references, Applicants respectfully submitted that the presently pending claims are already in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection are requested.

Discussion of Office Action Objection

The Office Action objected to the drawings for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

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Applicant has amended Figure 2 to depict the element "dielectric layer" indicated with the reference number 16 as taught in claims 2-3, 8-9 and 13-14. The appropriate section of the specification is also amended correspondingly. Regarding the limitation "the plurality of capacitor sub-plates" in claims 6 and 17, such feature is illustrated as element 20 in Figure 5. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-14 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Howland (US 6,894,519 B2).

Applicants respectfully assert that Howland is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claims 1, 7 and 12 for the reasons that each and every element of the claim in issue is not found in the prior art reference.

The present invention teaches substantially in claims 1, 7 and 12, among other things, '... wherein the capacitor plate is made of a plurality of capacitor sub-plates electrically insulated from each other...'. According, the testing of a plurality of spots can be accomplished concurrently. As a result, the testing period can be reduced and the life time of the apparatus can be extended. Howland, on the other hand, fails to teach or suggest a capacitor plate comprises a plurality of capacitor sub-plates.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully asserts that Howland fails to teach or suggest the present invention or to render claims 1, 7 and 12 anticipated. Since claims 2-5, 8-11

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and 13-16 are dependent claims, which further define the invention recited in claims 1, 7 and 12, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 4, 10 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Howland in view of Jolley (USP 5, 489,557).

With regard to the 103 rejections of claims by Howland in view of Jolley, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims defined over the prior art references for at least the reasons discussed above.

For at least the reason set forth hereinbefore, Applicants submit that the rejections to claims 4, 10 and 15 have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims 4, 10 and 15 are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the presently pending claims 1-17, are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Date : *Sept. 20, 2005*

Respectfully submitted,

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